THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Th Indian Council of Medical Research had undertaken a limited study which included a survey of food contaminants in milk. The majority of the samples were found to contain pesticide residues within the tolerance limits prescribed under the P.F.A. Rules. The study did not however, comment on the presence of toxic metals or fungal particles in milk.

(c) The Food Health Authorities of all States/U.Ts have been alerted to be more vigilant about the presence of contaminants including pesticide residues in food, to draw random samples for analysis and initiate appropriate punitive action under the PFA Act, 1954 to ensure sale of pure and wholesome food including milk.

Proposals of International Commission on Population and quality of life

202. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Commission on population and Quality of Life met a number of leaders of India during its visit to India;

(b) if so, the number of members who are representing the Commission, what are the main purposes of this commission and to what extent Government of India will be getting help from this population panel;

(c) whether any concrete proposals have been prepared by this Commission about the population and quality of life to be improved; and

(d) whether any concrete proposals have been implemented in this regard during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Independent Commission on Population and Quality of Life was initiated by several Govts., Foundations and International Oaganisations. It has 20 members. No concrete proposals and no offer of assistance have been received by Government of Indian from the Commission.

(d) Does not arise.

Rise in cases of AIDS in Asia

203. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindustan Times of 11th July, 1994 captioned "Asia may top in AIDS Cases" to the effect that by the end of the century, judging by the current rising graph of the incidence in India among other countries";

(b) whether according to Dr. Michael Merson, Executive Director of W.H.O.'s Global Programme on AIDS, the Asian region has recorded an eighth fold increase during July, 1993 June, 1994 from more than 30,000 to about 2,50,000 i.e. from one per cent to six per cent of the total;

(c) whether it is fact that the Manipur in the north east HIV prevalence rates among injecting drug users rose to 50 per cent between the late 1980s and 1982; and

(d) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take or have taken so far in this regard indicating the programme chalked out with WHO and other voluntary organisations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.